

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 210368

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

UNCLAS STATE 210368

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, US, JO

SUBJECT:VISIT BY U.S. ENTERTAINERS TO JORDAN

1. FOLLOWING AUG 25TH LETTER TO AMBASSADOR PICKERING FROM SENATOR STROM THURMOND, REQUESTING HELP IN OBTAINING AUDIENCE WITH KING HUSSEIN FOR TOURING GROUP OF AMERICAN GOSPEL AND COUNTRY MUSIC ENTERTAINERS, WAS RECEIVED IN DEPT, SEPT 4 : BEGIN TEXT - DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR:

PASTOR JIMMY R. SNOW OF NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, WHO HOSTS A RADIO ANDTELEVISION SHOW, 'GRAND OLE GOSPEL TIME',WHICH IS HEARD AND SEEN AROUND THE WORLD, IS LEADING A TOUR OF APPROXIMATELY 150 PERSONS TO SEVERAL COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST FROM SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 8.

THE GROUP WILL INCLUDE SEVERAL PROMINENT COUNTRY MUSIC ENTERTAINERS, SUCH AS HANK SNOW AND STU PHILLIPS, BOTH OF THE WORLD FAMOUS GRAND OLE OPRY, AND MERLE KILGORE, AND POSSIBLY OTHERS, AS WELL AS THE EVANGEL TEMPLE CHOIR AND BAND. HIGH-LIGHTS OF THIS TRIP WILL BE FILMED TO BE SHOWN LATER AS A TELEVISION SPECIAL.

THEY WILL BE IN JORDAN ON SEPT 28TH AND 29TH, AND PASTOR
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PAGE 02 STATE 210368

SNOW HAS ASKED THAT I CONTACT YOU REQUESTING YOUR ASSISTANCE

IN ARRANGING AN AUDIENCE WITH KING HUSSEIN ON EITHER OF THOSE TWO DAYS. IT IS MY HOPE THIS REQUEST CAN BE GRANTED, AND I WILL CERTAINLY APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD.

IN ADDITION, IF SO REQUESTED, PLEASE EXTEND ANY AND ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE COURTESIES AND ASSISTANCE TO THIS GROUP WHILE THEY ARE IN JORDAN.

I HOPE YOU ARE DOING NICELY, AND WITH KINDEST REGARDS AND BEST WISHES, VERY TRULY, /S/ STROM THURMOND - END TEXT.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING EARLY RESPONSE TO FOREGOING LETTER FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SENATOR THURMOND. DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY ADVISED HIS OFFICE OF POSSIBILITY THAT KING MAY BE AWAY FROM JORDAN OR OTHERWISE PREOCCUPIED IN LATE SEPTEMBER. KISSINGER

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